



April 27, 2026

Advice 7899-E

(Pacific Gas and Electric Company ID U 39 E)

Public Utilities Commission of the State of California

**Subject: Formalization of Preliminary Capacity Assessment, Pursuant to
Decision 26-02-025**

1. Purpose

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) respectfully submits this Tier 2 Advice Letter pursuant to Ordering Paragraph (OP) 7 of Decision (D.) 26-02-025, issued in the Order Instituting Rulemaking to Establish Energization Timelines (R.24-01-018), to formalize PG&E's Preliminary Capacity Assessment (PCA) offering as directed in Section 10 of the Decision.

2. Background

The Commission found that preliminary capacity assessments are common within the electric utility sector and that both utilities provide forms of capacity-related information to prospective customers. The Commission directed PG&E and SCE to formalize these offerings within a tariffed structure, align process elements to the extent practicable, and coordinate the format of their respective advice letters for easy comparison.

3. Existing Efforts

PG&E does not currently offer a single, standardized pre-application capacity screening available to all customer types. Today, customers can access several existing options depending on project type and stage of development.

Publicly Available Capacity Information

PG&E's Grid Resource Integration Portal (GRIP), available at grip.pge.com, provides Integration Capacity Analysis (ICA) hosting capacity data, load and generation capacity maps, and related grid planning information to the public at no charge on a 24/7 basis. GRIP is an illustrative planning tool that provides directional capacity information at the feeder and line-section level. It does not provide customer-specific engineering analysis, does not guarantee capacity availability, and is not a substitute for a formal engineering assessment.

3.1 Customer-Specific Pre-Assessment Pathways

In addition to GRIP, PG&E offers certain customer-specific pre-assessment pathways that are available once a customer has submitted a formal application for service or inquiry. These include:

- **EV Commercial Pre-Assessment:** For non-residential electric vehicle charging projects, PG&E offers an optional pre-assessment funded through the engineering advance. This assessment evaluates distribution capacity at the proposed site and informs the customer whether their requested load can be accommodated. This Pre-Assessment currently costs between \$1,000 and \$3,500 to perform, with the pre-assessment often facilitating the more detailed engineering if the project advances.
- **Large Load and Transmission-Level Studies:** For projects with significant load requirements that may affect transmission-level infrastructure, PG&E performs feasibility studies and load inquiries. These studies require an engineering advance and are performed on a case-by-case basis. These studies typically cost \$50k and up.

These existing pathways are engineering-intensive and can include preliminary design, identification of constraints, upgrade scoping, and other solutioning work. They do not provide a guarantee or reservation of capacity.

3.2 Generation Interconnection Pre-Application Report

Under Rule 21, generation customers may request a pre-application report that evaluates the conditions at a specified substation feeder. This report is available at a much lower cost. The Commission has directed PG&E and SCE to review the generation interconnection process as they identify PCA efficiencies and to explain the cost difference between these processes. (D.26-02-025, Section 10.) These studies vary in degree of rigor and cost the customer up to \$1,000.

The primary driver of the cost difference is the degree of automation and availability of existing information. The generation pre-application report is produced through PG&E's automated Distributed Generation Screening Tool (DGST), which only provides circuit-level information from the network model (such as bank size, current peak loading, and distance from the substation) to generate a standardized report. By contrast, a load PCA will require a customer-specific engineering assessment performed manually by a distribution planning engineer who must account for the interaction between the requested load, existing loads, planned projects, and distribution system constraints at the identified point of connection. PG&E's Automatic Capacity Evaluator (ACE), described below, will enable automating the load capacity assessment in the same manner that DGST automates the generation pre-application report but with the addition of project-

specific screening of hosting capacity. As ACE matures, the cost of performing load assessments is expected to decrease accordingly.

3.3 Automatic Capacity Evaluator (ACE)

PG&E is currently developing the Automatic Capacity Evaluator (ACE), a Commission-approved initiative authorized through Advice Letter 7490-E, implementing D.24-10-030 requirements to incorporate Load ICA results into internal energization business processes. ACE automates load calculation using customer-submitted intake data and compares the calculated load against Load ICA available hosting capacity at the point of connection, flagging potential capacity constraints earlier in the process.

ACE's capacity screening capability is functionally aligned with the intent of the PCA. Rather than rely indefinitely on manual engineering resources, PG&E will leverage ACE as the PCA backend to deliver a scalable, automated assessment. The customer-facing components established by this Advice Letter (intake form, report format, fee structure) are designed to be independent of the backend assessment method. ACE is expected to become operational in 2027. In the interim, preliminary capacity assessments will be performed manually by distribution planning engineers. As ACE is implemented, it will replace the manual backend without changing the customer-facing process. Upon full deployment of ACE, PG&E will evaluate whether fee adjustments are warranted and will file a Advice Letter if material changes to the PCA process are needed.

4. Preliminary Capacity Assessment (PCA)

The PCA (also the name of the new process) will be an optional, information only customer-initiated process and is only completed at the customer's request. The PCA provides prospective customers with an estimate, based on customer requested load, if electrical capacity is available at the specific point on PG&E's distribution system. It would be available to any prospective customer seeking to evaluate whether sufficient capacity exists to serve their anticipated electrical demand prior to submitting a formal application for service. Customers are responsible for the costs associated with the assessment.

4.1 Description of Process

The PCA provides a point-in-time assessment of whether PG&E's distribution system can accommodate the customer's requested load at the identified location. During the interim period before ACE is operational, the capacity assessment is performed manually by a distribution planning engineer. The engineer evaluates whether the requested load can be served at the identified point of interconnection based on available system data, known constraints, and planned projects in the area. If the requested load exceeds available capacity, the engineer identifies the nature of the constraint and, where feasible, provides an estimated timeline for when capacity may become available.

Upon deployment of ACE, the assessment will be automated. ACE will map the customer's project point of interconnection to the nearest primary distribution line section and compares the requested load against published Load Integration Capacity Analysis (ICA) values for that line section. ICA evaluates thermal, voltage, and protection constraints across the distribution system using time-series power flow analysis and is updated on a monthly basis. Because ICA values are pre-calculated for all primary line sections, the automated assessment does not require a new power flow study for each request. This is the same data infrastructure that supports PG&E's public-facing GRIP portal, applied here to load capacity assessment at the customer-specific level.

4.2 Limitations and Use of PCA Results

The PCA is separate from and does not replace the formal application process. Completion of a PCA does not constitute an application for service, does not reserve capacity, and does not guarantee that capacity identified in the PCA will be available at the time a formal application is submitted. Capacity reported is subject to change based on subsequent grid conditions, other customer requests, and engineering studies performed during the formal application process. Any values resulting from this assessment are subject to change pending final site design and utility-conducted engineering studies as part of the energization process. A PCA cannot be converted into a formal application for service. Customers who wish to proceed after receiving PCA results must submit a separate application through PG&E's standard process.

PG&E is not responsible for confirming information provided by the customer in the PCA process. PG&E's role is to process the customer-provided information and assess the currently available capacity at the identified point on the grid based upon available information.

Under both the manual and automated approaches, the assessment is limited to the distribution system. It does not evaluate transmission constraints, customer-side electrical design, or site-specific constructability. Capacity reported is based on currently available data and is subject to change based on subsequent grid conditions, other customer requests, and engineering studies performed during the formal application process.

4.3 Sub-step A: PCA Intake

The customer will initiate the PCA by submitting a Preliminary Capacity Request through a new online user interface. The customer will be responsible for providing the information specified below.

Table 1: PCA Intake Fields

Field	Description	Required?
Customer name	Legal name of requesting entity	Yes
Contact information	Email, phone, mailing address	Yes
Project location	Street address, or latitude/longitude if no address exists	Yes
Requested load or generation	Peak demand in kW	Yes
Building square footage	Gross square footage, by building type if mixed-use	No
Occupancy/Load type	Per Electric Design Manual classifications	No
Load ramp schedule	If the project will energize in phases, the load and timeline for each phase	If Applicable
Preferred energization date	Target date for energization of the project	Yes
Service Voltage		No
Main Breaker Amp		No
Basic Site Map		No

The PCA intake form collects the information specified in D.26-02-025, Section 10, Sub-step A. However, PG&E notes that fields such as service voltage, main breaker amperage, and equipment cut sheets are not required at intake because PG&E's PCA methodology assesses available distribution capacity against the customer's stated load at the identified point of interconnection which does not require PG&E to evaluate the customer's internal electrical design or validate their load calculation. These technical parameters may be collected during the formal application process if the customer chooses to proceed.

The PCA will require a non-refundable fee of \$3,000 at the time of submission. The 30-day assessment timeline would begin when PG&E determines the request is complete, payment has been received, and the capacity assessment study begins. This fee reflects the cost of performing a manual capacity assessment, including engineering labor, data analysis, and administrative costs associated with operating the PCA intake and reporting process. The fee is consistent with SCE's \$3,000 fee for its Engineering Analysis Report. As PG&E transitions the PCA backend to ACE, automation efficiencies may reduce the

cost of performing assessments, and PG&E will evaluate whether fee adjustments are warranted.

4.4 Sub-step B: Utility Response

Upon receipt of a complete request and fee, PG&E performs a capacity assessment for requested load at the specified location. Within 30 days of the request, PG&E delivers a standardized PCA Report in the following format:

4.4.1 Section 1: Request Summary

- PCA reference number
- Customer name
- Project location
- Identified point of connection
- Requested load (kW)
- Requested service voltage
- Requested interconnection date
- Date of PCA request
- Date of PCA Report

4.4.2 Section 2: Capacity Assessment Result

The capacity assessment result will be categorized as one of the following:

- **Capacity Available:** Sufficient distribution capacity exists to serve the customer's full requested load at the identified point of connection for the requested energization date.
- **Partial Capacity Available:** Some distribution capacity exists at the identified point of connection, but not enough to serve the customer's full requested load. The report will include the available capacity (kW), the most limiting constraint, and where feasible, an estimated range of time for when full capacity may become available.
- **No Capacity Until Later Date:** Distribution capacity is not currently available to serve the requested load at this location. The report will include the available capacity (kW), the most limiting constraint, and an estimated range of time for when capacity may become available based on planned or anticipated distribution work.

4.4.3 Section 3: Reporting Template

The Decision further directs PG&E and SCE to consult with the Commission's Energy Division to identify the appropriate reportable data fields and propose their reporting as

part of this Advice Letter. PG&E and SCE jointly consulted with the Energy Division in April 2026.

PG&E proposes the following reportable fields to be included in our March 2027 Biannual Energization Report and understands that these items are subject to update via resolution as detailed in Section 10 of D.24-09-020.

Table 2: Reportable Fields

Item	Step 0 Reportable Field	Description
1	Assessment Reference Number	Unique ID
2	Sub-step A Start (Date)	PCA Customer Request Date
3	Sub-step A End (Date)	Capacity Study Start Date
4	Step 0: Sub-step A Total Days (Calendar Days Count)	Calculated Days Elapsed (Customer Responsible Days)
5	Sub-step B Start (Date)	Capacity Study Start Date
6	Sub-step B End (Date)	Date Utility Provides PCA Results
7	Step 0: Sub-step B Total Days (Calendar Days Count)	Calculated Days Elapsed (Utility Responsible Days)
8	Preferred Energization Date (Date)	Requested project energization date
9	Load Requested (kW)	Requested load needed
10	Location (Address or Lat/Long)	Project Location
11	Customer Type (Fixed Field)	Agricultural, Residential, or Commercial project type
12	Can the Utility serve the customer's requested capacity? (Yes/No)	Can the utility provide the requested kw at the requested location?
13	Cost to Customer	Cost customer pays for PCA
14	Customer Submitted Energization Application Date	Date customer submitted an energization application (If Applicable)
15	Energization Application Number	Energization application project identifier (If Applicable)

5. Divergence from SCE

D.26-02-025 directs PG&E and SCE to align PCA process elements to the extent practicable and to coordinate the format of their respective advice letters for ease of comparison. PG&E and SCE have aligned on the structure and reportable fields of the PCA. The following areas reflect differences between the two utilities' PCA implementations, along with the rationale for each divergence.

Intake Method

SCE accepts PCA requests through its existing Building, Renovation, and Project Planning Portal (BRPPP), which was operational prior to D.26-02-025. PG&E does not have an equivalent existing portal and will develop a new customer-facing intake interface to support the PCA.

Sub-transmission Coverage

SCE's PCA may include assessment of sub-transmission facilities (66 kV and 115 kV) where the requested load affects those systems. PG&E's distribution system does not include a comparable sub-transmission tier. Requests that require transmission-level analysis are outside the scope of PG&E's PCA and are directed to PG&E's transmission planning group through existing processes.

Conclusion

PG&E respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Advice Letter formalizing PG&E's Preliminary Capacity Assessment process. The PCA provides prospective customers with a standardized, transparent means of evaluating available electrical capacity prior to committing to a formal application for service. The process is designed to support distribution planning, and transition to automated assessment through ACE as that tool becomes operational.

This submittal would not increase any current rate or charge, cause the withdrawal of service, or conflict with any rate schedule or rule.

Protests

Anyone wishing to protest this submittal may do so by letter sent electronically via E-mail, no later than May 18, 2025, which is 21 days¹ after the date of this submittal. Protests must be submitted to:

¹ The 20-day protest period concludes on a weekend; therefore, PG&E is moving this date to the following business day.

CPUC Energy Division
ED Tariff Unit
E-mail: EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

The protest shall also be electronically sent to PG&E via E-mail at the address shown below on the same date it is electronically delivered to the Commission:

Sidney Bob Dietz II
Director, Regulatory Relations
c/o Megan Lawson
E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

Any person (including individuals, groups, or organizations) may protest or respond to an advice letter (General Order 96-B, Section 7.4). The protest shall contain the following information: specification of the advice letter protested; grounds for the protest; supporting factual information or legal argument; name and e-mail address of the protestant; and statement that the protest was sent to the utility no later than the day on which the protest was submitted to the reviewing Industry Division (General Order 96-B, Section 3.11).

Effective Date

Pursuant to General Order (GO) 96-B, Rule 5.2, (and OP 7 of D.26-02-025), this advice letter is submitted with a Tier 2 designation. PG&E requests that this Tier 2 advice submittal become effective on regular notice, May 27, 2026, which is 30 calendar days after the date of submittal.

Notice

In accordance with General Order 96-B, Section IV, a copy of this advice letter is being sent electronically to parties shown on the attached list and the parties on the service list for R.24-01-018. Address changes to the General Order 96-B service list should be directed to PG&E at email address PGETariffs@pge.com. For changes to any other service list, please contact the Commission's Process Office at (415) 703-2021 or at Process_Office@cpuc.ca.gov. Send all electronic approvals to PGETariffs@pge.com. Advice letter submittals can also be accessed electronically at: <http://www.pge.com/tariffs/>.

_____/S/
Sidney Bob Dietz II
Director, Regulatory Relations
CPUC Communications

cc: Service List R.24-01-018



ADVICE LETTER SUMMARY

ENERGY UTILITY



MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No.: Pacific Gas and Electric Company (ID U39 E)

Utility type:

☒ ELC ☐ GAS ☐ WATER
☐ PLC ☐ HEAT

Contact Person: Kimberly Loo

Phone #: (279)789-6209

E-mail: PGETariffs@pge.com

E-mail Disposition Notice to: Kimberly.Loo@pge.com

EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric GAS = Gas WATER = Water
PLC = Pipeline HEAT = Heat

(Date Submitted / Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 7899-E

Tier Designation: 2

Subject of AL: Formalization of Preliminary Capacity Assessment, Pursuant to Decision 26-02-025

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Compliance

AL Type: ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annual ☒ One-Time ☐ Other:

If AL submitted in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #: D.26-02-025

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL: No

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL:

Confidential treatment requested? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, specification of confidential information:

Confidential information will be made available to appropriate parties who execute a nondisclosure agreement. Name and contact information to request nondisclosure agreement/ access to confidential information:

Resolution required? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Requested effective date: 5/27/26

No. of tariff sheets: N/A

Estimated system annual revenue effect (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected:

Service affected and changes proposed¹: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: N/A

¹Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

Protests and correspondence regarding this AL are to be sent via email and are due no later than 20 days after the date of this submittal, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:

California Public Utilities Commission
Energy Division Tariff Unit Email:
EDTariffUnit@cpuc.ca.gov

Contact Name: Sidnev Bob Dietz II. c/o Megan Lawson
Title: Director, Regulatory Relations
Utility/Entity Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email: PGETariffs@pge.com

Contact Name:
Title:
Utility/Entity Name:

Telephone (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Facsimile (xxx) xxx-xxxx:
Email:

CPUC
Energy Division Tariff Unit
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Clear Form

**PG&E Gas and Electric
Advice Submittal List
General Order 96-B, Section IV**

AT&T	Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Albion Power Company		Peninsula Clean Energy
Alta Power Group, LLC	Electrical Power Systems, Inc. Fresno	Pioneer Community Energy
Anderson & Poole	Engie North America	Public Advocates Office
BART	Engineers and Scientists of California	Redwood Coast Energy Authority
Ava Community Energy		Regulatory & Cogeneration Service, Inc.
BART		Resource Innovations
Buchalter	GenOn Energy, Inc.	Rockpoint Gas Storage
Barkovich & Yap, Inc.	Green Power Institute	
Biering & Brown LLP		
Braun Blasing Smith Wynne, P.C.	Hanna & Morton LLP	San Diego Gas & Electric Company
		San Jose Clean Energy
		SPURR
California Community Choice Association	ICF consulting	
California Cotton Ginners & Growers Association	iCommLaw	Sempra Utilities
California Energy Commission	International Power Technology	Sierra Telephone Company, Inc.
California Hub for Energy Efficiency	Intertie	Southern California Edison Company
California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority	Intestate Gas Services, Inc.	Southern California Gas Company
California Public Utilities Commission		Spark Energy
Calpine	Kaplan Kirsch LLP	Sun Light & Power
Cameron-Daniel, P.C.	Kelly Group	Sunshine Design
Casner, Steve	Ken Bohn Consulting	Stoel Rives LLP
Center for Biological Diversity	Keyes & Fox LLP	
Chevron Pipeline and Power	Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	Tecogen, Inc.
	Los Angeles County Integrated	TerraVerde Renewable Partners
		Tiger Natural Gas, Inc.
Clean Power Research	Waste Management Task Force	
Coast Economic Consulting		
Commercial Energy	MRW & Associates	Utility Cost Management
Crossborder Energy	Manatt Phelps Phillips	
Crown Road Energy, LLC	Marin Energy Authority	Water and Energy Consulting
	McClintock IP	
	McKenzie & Associates	
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	Modesto Irrigation District	
Day Carter Murphy	NLine Energy Inc.	Yep Energy
Dept of General Services	NOSSAMAN LLP	
Diablo Canyon Independent Safety Committee	NRG Energy Inc.	
Douglass & Liddell		
Downey Brand LLP		